Goa Coast is due to the non-availability of speed boats either with the Customs authorities or with the Coasc Guard organisation and that the only speed boat with the Customs authorities is obsolete and often out of order and also that Coast Guard organisation procures the speed boats from Bombay after they get requisition from Customs authorities with advance 48 hours notice; and

(b) if so what steps Government propose to take to provide speed boats to the Customs officials in order to effctively combat smuggling activities on the Goa Coast?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Two boats have been made available to the Goa Customs authorities. The two Customs Patrol crafts available with Pune Collectorate also cover the Goa coastline. In addition, the Coast Guard keep a vessel ready at Bombay for sail at half-an-hour notice from the Customs /Directorate of Revenue Intelligence. The additional requirements of boats for the Goa Customs for anti-smuggling operations on the Goa Coast is being examined.

SAIL Depot in Goa

2101. SHRI JOHN F. FERN ANDES:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINEg be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the great demand from the trading community in Goa for the establishment of a SAIL depot in Goa as at present they have to lift their quota from Belgaum and the Goa Handicraft Development Corporation can cater upto 3300 tonnes against the present demand of 5000 tonnes; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider the opening of a depot in Goa, in the interest of the trading community of this new State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. SAIL intends to continue the existing arrangement of making supplies in the State of Goa through their consignment agency in Goa.

2102. *[Transferred to the* 26th *March,* 1990]

2103. *[Transferred to the 25th March,* 1990]

Trade with Afghanistan

2104. SHRI BIB BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI JAGADISH JANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out a plan in order to expand the volume of trade wita Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The possibility of promoting economic and commercial cooperation iS being explored. The focus is on increasing exports and imports of existing items as well as identifying new products that can be traded between India and Afghanistan. Industrial cooperation is also, being considered to enhance levels of trade.

Increase in availability of steel

2105. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase availability of steel in the

country during the next two-three years;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the names of the steel plants in which production will be raised and to what extent it will meet the domestic requirement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The domestic availability of steel is sought to be augment-" ed through imports. For this purpose steel items have since been brought under Appendix 19 of the Import and Export Policy enabling their import against REP/additional licenses. In the long run production is sought to be increased through various modernisation/expansion programmes of the integrated steel plants of the main producers and adequate capacity creation in the secondary sector.

Re-rollable steel material supplied by SAIL to steel re-rolling units

2106. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the quantity and value of re-rollable steel material supplied by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. to the steel re-rolling units which do not possess Carry on Business (COB) or industrial licence during the periods 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (upto February, 1990)?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): Re-rollable steel materials are distributed by SAIL as per the existing Distribution Guidelines of the Joint Plant Committee. The Guidelin. es require a consumer to declare his manufacturing licence registration number of the unit using the material. Data regarding supplies are not maintained by SAIL on the basis of the status of rerolling units.

Notification Barring Steel Re-Rolling Units from drawing Supplies of Re-Rollable Steel

2107. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA;

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a notification No. SO. B55(E) dated the 18th August, 1981 was issued by the Ministry of Industry barring all the steel re-rolling units which do not possess Carry On Business (COB) or industrial Licence from drawing supplies of re-rollable steel materials from the main producers including the SAIL;

(b) if so, whether the notify ation is still in force;

(c) whether the notification has been over-ruled or amended; if so, what is the date of the over-ruling or amendment of the notification, and what is the nature of the amendment of the notification;

(d) what is the name of the Authority which has over-ruled or amended the notification;

(e) whether the over-ruling or amending authority was competent to over-rule or amend the notification on the date o*t* over-rulling or amendment; and

(f) whether Shri S. K. Ahluwalia, Director (Commerciali SAIL was competent to amend the notification at any point of time after the 18th August, 1981, if so. when and under what authority?